

County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020 (213) 351-5602

July 30, 2004

Board of Supervisors
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Fifth District

Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair Pro Tem First Supervisorial District Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street - Room #856 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Supervisor Molina:

This is to respectfully request that you and/or Supervisor Antonovich recognize Univision Communications, Inc. and Mr. Steve Meiers with County scrolls at an upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting.

Univision 34 KMEX-TV is the flagship station of Univision Communications Inc. and is the premier Spanish-language media company. They feature the highly acclaimed "34 A Su Lado" program designed to inform the public about issues affecting their community. "34 Su Lado" includes a regular feature during which news anchors host a telethon designed to support various organizations, and community members are able to call in to obtain information on specific issues. After meeting with Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) managers, Univision graciously chose to support our foster and adoptive parent recruitment efforts by inviting us to participate in a telethon.

On April 7, 2004 Univision KMEX-TV held a 5-hour telethon. News anchor Teresa Quevedo hosted the telethon from a room where 40 DCFS staff members answered telephone calls that came flooding in all evening. She also interviewed different social workers on the air and we were able to address issues such as the qualifications to become a foster or adoptive parent, types of children needing homes, and what supportive services are available. Because of this event, we received inquires from over 400 families requesting information about becoming a foster and adoptive parent.

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There are many organizations that approach Univision requesting participation in the telethon. We are so pleased that Univision chose to support our recruitment efforts and promote permanency and stability for abused and neglected children. In response, we respectfully request that you and/or Supervisor Antonovich acknowledge Univision for this recruitment opportunity with a County scroll at an upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting. We plan to invite the media to the Board meeting to help promote an ongoing partnership between Univision and DCFS.

Additionally, we respectfully request that you and/or Supervisor Antonovich recognize Mr. Steven Meiers with a County scroll at an upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting as well. Mr. Meiers is a retired attorney who worked at the prestigious law firm of Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher where he instituted the Adoption Finalization Project, which resulted in expediting the adoption process for children and families. Mr. Meiers continues to be committed to improving the lives of children in foster care as an active participant. His efforts include meeting with the Los Angeles Commission for Children and Families and supporting the Department's efforts to recruit permanent families for children. Mr. Meiers demonstrated his support by pursuing his contacts and connections at Univision in order for the meeting between Univision and DCFS to take place. This vital meeting and the resulting partnership would not have occurred without his efforts.

Please let me know whether you and/or Supervisor Antonovich would like to recognize Univision and Steven Meiers with a County scrolls at an upcoming Board of Supervisor's meeting. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me, or your staff may contact Helen Berberian, Board Liaison, at (213) 351-5530.

Sincerely.

DAVID SANDERS, Ph.D.

Director

DS:TP: DW:ks